

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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A2  
1. An image data processing system comprising:

2 a digital camera having a conversion means for converting the  
3 light from a photographic object to the image data, and a storage  
4 medium;

5 an image data memory apparatus having a memory section storing  
6 the image data;

7 reduction image data forming means for forming the reduction  
8 image data according to the image data; and

9 a communication apparatus having a communication device  
10 transmitting and receiving the image data and the reduction image  
11 data between the digital camera and the image data memory apparatus,  
12 and a communication path to which the communication apparatus is  
13 connected,

14 wherein the image data is stored in the memory section, and  
15 the reduction image data is stored in the storage medium.

1 2. The image data processing system described in Claim 1, wherein  
2 the digital camera includes an image display means for displaying  
3 one of the image data and the image according to the reduction image  
4 data.

1 3. The image data processing system described in Claim 2, wherein  
2 the reduction image data forming means is provided in the image data  
3 memory apparatus.

1 4. The image data processing system described in Claim 3, wherein  
2 the reduction image data forming means forms the reduction image  
3 data according to the image data stored in the memory section,  
4 including the image data received from the digital camera.

1 5. The image data processing system described in Claim 4, wherein  
2 the digital camera is provided with storing means for receiving the  
3 reduction image data and storing it in the storage medium.

1 6. The image data processing system described in Claim 5, wherein  
2 the digital camera is housed therein the communication apparatus.

1 7. The image data processing system described in Claim 6, wherein  
2 the memory section of the image data memory apparatus has a cache  
3 area in which the stored image data is deleted at need and the new  
4 image data is stored, and a saving area to accumulate the image data.

1 8. An image data memory apparatus comprising:

2 a memory section for receiving the image data photographed  
3 by the outside digital camera and for storing it;

4 reduction image data forming means for forming the reduction  
5 image data according to the image data; and

6 transmission means for transmitting the reduction image data  
7 to the digital camera.

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Fig. 4:

S401: Take picture

S402: Store digital data to RAM

S403: Form image data

5 S404: Transmit image data

S405: Direct storage area

S406: Store newest thumbnail

S411: Receive image data

S412: Saving area ?

10 S413: Delete oldest image data

S414: Store newest image data

S415: Store newest image data

S416: Form thumbnail according to newest image data

Fig. 5:

15 S501: Search thumbnail

S502: Select desired image

S503: Receive image data

S504: Display image data on LCD

S505: Print ?

20 S506: instruct printing

S511: Receive command

S512: Search image data

S513: Transmit image data to digital camera

S514: Download image data to printer

25 S515: Save image data into saving area

